

CLAIMS:

1. A medicine feeder, comprising: a cassette for housing medicines in array; biasing member for biasing the medicines in the cassette toward one end side; and a  
5 discharge member disposed on one end portion of the cassette for holding a medicine in a holding recess portion and discharging the medicine singly by rotating movement.
2. The medicine feeder as defined in Claim 1, wherein the discharge member has a support face capable of supporting a  
10 next medicine while holding the medicine in the holding recess portion and rotating.
3. The medicine feeder as defined in Claim 2, wherein the discharge member rotates so as to be positioned in each of a reception position for holding the medicine in the  
15 holding recess portion inside the cassette and an extraction position for extracting the medicine held in the holding recess portion.
4. The medicine feeder as defined in Claim 3, further comprising: medicine detection member for detecting whether  
20 or not a medicine is present in the holding recess portion when the discharge member is positioned at the extraction position; and control device for allowing driving of the discharge member based on prescription data and a detection signal in the medicine detection member.

5. The medicine feeder as defined in Claim 4, further comprising lock member for disabling the discharge member from rotating, wherein the control device controls the lock member so as to lock the discharge member at the reception position when discharge of a prescribed quantity of medicines based on prescription data is completed.

6. The medicine feeder as defined in any one of Claims 1 to 5, wherein the discharge member has a notch on opposite walls constituting the holding recess portion to assist easy holding of the medicine.